Oats, Peas, Beans, and Barley Grow

Chorus
Oats, peas, beans, and barley grow,
Oats, peas, beans, and barley grow,
Can you or I or anyone know
How oats, peas, beans, and barley grow?

1. First the farmer sows his seed,
   Stands erect and takes his ease,
   He stamps his foot and claps his hands,
   And turns around to view his lands.

Chorus

2. Next the farmer waters the seed,
   Stands erect and takes his ease,
   He stamps his foot and claps his hands,
   And turns around to view his lands.

Chorus

3. Next the farmer hoes the weeds,
   Stands erect and takes his ease,
   He stamps his foot and claps his hands,
   And turns around to view his lands.

Chorus

4. Last the farmer harvests his seed,
   Stands erect and takes his ease,
   He stamps his foot and claps his hands,
   And turns around to view his lands.

Chorus

Children stand in a circle, holding hands. One child is selected to be "Farmer", and stands in the center of the ring.

Chorus: While singing the chorus, children circle around the Farmer to the right.

Unless otherwise indicated, all songs and games are from the Berea College Hutchins Library Special Collections and Archives in the Leonard Roberts Papers.
The Farmer performs the activities described in the first verse: first sowing the seed; then standing at ease; stamping their foot; clapping their hands; and finally, views their lands by turning around inside the circle while shading their eyes. At the end of the verse, the Farmer points their finger at one of the children in the ring, who then becomes the new Farmer for the next round of the chorus and the second verse. Continue this process throughout all verses.

Repeat the game until all children have had the opportunity to be Farmer.

Little Sally Walker

1. Little Sally Walker,
   Sitting in a Saucer,
   Crying and a weeping for a young man (or - weeping in the morning like a turtledove)
   Rise Sally Rise
   Wipe your weeping eyes,
   Point to the east, point to the west,
   Point to the one that you love the best.

   Children form circle and “Sally” kneels and covers face with hands. Children stand still facing the center and sing. When the words of the song indicate, “Sally” rises. With her eyes still closed and her right arm out-stretched and finger pointed, she slowly turns to the right as they sing. The child at whom she is pointing when the song is finished takes her place.
The Fox

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The Fox went out on a chilly night
He prayed for the moon to give him light
For he had many a mile to go that night
Before he reached the town-o, town-o, town-o
He had many a mile to go that night
Before he reached the town-o

He ran till he came to the famers pen
The ducks and the geese were kept therein
He said a couple of you are gonna grease my chin
Before I leave this town-o, town-o, town-o
A couple of you are gonna grease my chin
Before I leave this town-o

[BRIDGE (Mandolin)]

He grabbed the great goose by the neck
He threw a duck across his back
And he didn't mind the quack, quack
And the legs all danglin' down-o, down-o, down-o
He didn't mind the quack, quack
And the legs all danglin' down-o

Well the old gray Woman jumped out of bed
Out of the window she popped her head
Cryin' John, John the great goose is gone
The Fox is on the town-o, town-o, town-o
John, John the great goose is gone
And the Fox is on the town-o

[BRIDGE (Fiddle)]

He ran till he came to his nice warm den
And there were the little ones 8, 9, 10
Sayin' Daddy, Daddy better go back again
It must be a mighty fine town-o, town-o, town-o
Daddy, Daddy go back again
For it must be a mighty fine town-o

The Fox and his Wife, without any strife
They cut up the goose with a fork and a knife
And they never had such a supper in their life
And the little ones chewed on the bones-o, bones-o, bones-o
They never had such a supper in their life
And the little ones chewed on the bones